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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Training in Letzling Heath Area;
Survey of Rathenow

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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DATE OF INFO. 6-13 September 1949

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1. Letzlingen (Y53) has been evacuated by German civilians and all roads entering the Letzling Heath area are blocked and checked by roving patrols and fixed guardposts.

2. From 6 to 9 September 1949, artillery firing was constant. Shell splinters were found in Doile and along the Doile-Tangermunde road. Forest roads running west from this latter highway were filled with parked and camouflaged trucks. A total of twenty-four 57 mm AT guns were observed. There were also one MG per AT gun and an AA/MG, truck-mounted, for every three AT guns.

3. No tank tracks were seen on any of the roads leading to the Letzling Heath grounds. Small roads off the Stendal-Gardelegen highway had been much used, but tracks indicated only wheeled transport.

4. As of 13 September 1949, barracks in Rathenow (Z15) were lightly occupied. No weapons or equipment were observed and temporary and permanent garages were empty. The vehicle, engineer, and infantry barracks in Rathenow-Nord were occupied by about 200 mechanized rifle troops, said to have come from Magdeburg by train in groups of 10-20 men. The normal Rathenow garrison troops are in training at Altengrabow (Z00). Some of the furniture they took with them has already been returned by rail. According to various Germans who were drafted from their regular places of employment for work in Altengrabow,

Comments: I.e., 200 men per barracks, total 600.

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